

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JUNE 20, 2023 A TUESDAY AT 10:00 AM
AT 3608 HWY 246 (NEW CITY HALL) & VIA TELECONFERENCE (ZOOM) CITY OF SKY VALLEY, GEORGIA**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Steil, Councilors Darrah, Oliver, Turner, Allred, and Curtis

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Streetman, City Clerk Fleming, City Attorney Kidd, Public Works Superintendent Shope, Water Coordinator English, Building Inspector Pyburn, Lt. Baumes, and Communications Specialist Van Camp

1. Call to Order

Mayor Steil called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Turner led the invocation and pledge of allegiance.

3. Approval of Minutes

April 18, 2023 – Regular Council Meeting

Councilor Darrah made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

4. Adoption of Agenda

Councilor Oliver made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Curtis, unanimously approved.

5. Mayoral/Council Remarks

Mayor Steil thanked all that came to the open house, Rick Story from Forward Rabun, conducting a ribbon cutting, and the city staff for their help in making it a success. Also, thanked the Public Works department for the work that they performed on the front entrance irrigation.

Councilor Curtis stated that he had questions pertaining to items 10 and 12 of the agenda.

6. City Manager Report

City Manager Streetman also thanked all for the hard work that was put in for the open house. A new roof has been installed at City Hall. Due to weather related issues, the insurance covered the cost of the roof. Working on finalizing the Independence Day events and have started on the 2024 budget. Currently the city is a little over 50% of the current budget. Food Truck Fridays have been a success as the city is trying to help with the promotions of small businesses.

7. Departmental Reports

PW Superintendent Shope stated that his crew is busy with summer duties such as mowing, cleaning out of ditches, and 4th of July preparations. Water Coordinator English discussed some recent water line breaks. work going into the locating of water lines for the updating of water map, and the preventive maintenance being performed on tanks, pumps, and well houses. Building Inspector Pyburn stated that he is settled into his new office, which is in the same building but a different office. The 911, green SV signs, can now be purchased at Tropical Rayz in Clayton as well as the mapping department. Ninety-eight permits have been issued as of date and four new homes under construction.

8. Committee Reports

Special Projects Chairman, Bruce Turner, stated that the committee is currently working on the Independence Day Event and will move on to Fallfest after the 4th. Mayoral Advisory Committee

Chairman, Bill Oliver, stated that the next meeting will be this Thursday and will be discussing options concerning a sewer system and EV charging stations in Sky Valley. Marketing Committee Chairman, Gordon Brand, stated that on May 18th, Media Specialist were in Sky Valley, and they spoke highly of their visit. He went over the current map and magazine ads. Planning & Zoning Chairman Dan McAfee stated that the committee is finalizing the Short-Term Rental Ordinance which will be brought before the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

9 Consider approval of Ordinance to increase Hotel/Motel tax from 5% to 8% - 1st Reading

City Manager Streetman went over the proposed Ordinance and stating that this increase was passed at the 2023 regular session of the Georgia General Assembly. If the Ordinance is approved, the revenue would help with keeping the property taxes down.

No action taken.

10. Consider approval of Ordinance to approve Disorderly House Ordinance – 1st Reading

Mayor Steil went over the proposed Ordinance, specifically Section 1. City Manager Streetman stated that the Ordinance would give the Police Department more authority to control incidents. Questions were made by Councilor Curtis concerning the language such as “gaming, drinking, or other misbehavior”. City Attorney Kid stated that state law language was used to make up the Ordinance and all would have to be illegal activities to be cited.

No action taken.

11. Consider approval to add Monday July 3rd as a city holiday for 2023

City Manager Streetman stated that since the 4th fell on a Tuesday that he would like to request that Monday the 3rd be added as a staff holiday as well.

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the 3rd as a holiday for 2023, seconded by Councilor Darrah, unanimously approved.

12. Consider approval of Resolution to create a police vehicle replacement plan as recommended by GMA (Georgia Municipal Association)

City Manager Streetman went over the recommendations of Steve Shields with GMA. This is just a guideline as a planning tool for the five-year capital plan. Councilor Curtis questioned if the city adopts such particular standards doesn't that endanger getting rid of vehicles before their time? City Manager Streetman said that each vehicle would be accessed, such as mileage and maintaining, before replacing.

Consensus of remarks were favorable of the Ordinance as First Responders need reliable vehicles.

Councilor Turner made a motion to approve the Resolution, seconded by Councilor Allred, unanimously approved.

13. Consider approval of Resolution to declare city equipment as surplus for liquidation - (2) 2017 Subaru Foresters

City Manager Streetman stated that two out of four Subarus have already been replaced and the two that are left have transmission issues and over 70,000 miles. GovDeals could be used to auction off.

Councilor Curtis made a motion to approve the Resolution to declare the Subarus as surplus, seconded by Councilor Darrah, unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

14. Public Forum and General Comments

Dale Fenwick, 36 Big Bear, stated that unauthorized golf carts need to be addressed on city roads and that Mud Creek Trail needs some maintenance performed. A discussion concerning the old covered bridge near the overlook ensued.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, Councilor Allred made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Darrah, unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:



Hollie Steil, Mayor

Attested:



Karen Fleming, City Clerk